

## **Historic, Archive Document**

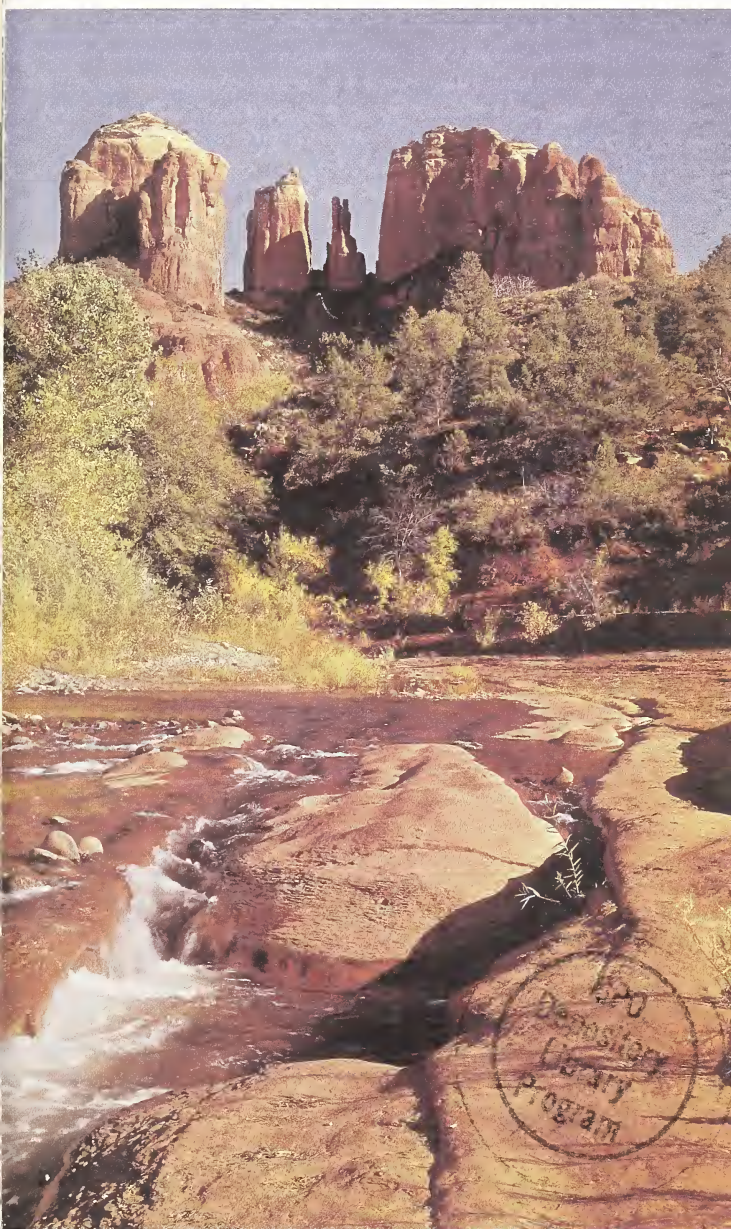
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# Oak Creek Canyon

Sedona Ranger District  
Coconino National Forest



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

PREPARED BY  
Forest  
Service

Southwestern  
Region

16 OCT 1990

## **Welcome . . . To Oak Creek Canyon**

From the Mogollon Rim with its tall timber, downward to the semi-desert of the red rock country, Oak Creek Canyon is a continuous and ever changing display of natural beauty.

The dramatic drop in altitude brings sudden changes in vegetation and rock formations. Large sculptured spires are surrounded by hundreds of other sandstone bastions which have resisted wind and water while, through eons, the softer material around them has been carried off.

Clear, cool Oak Creek flows between 1200-foot canyon walls, exposing seven geological eras — the earliest laid down before dinosaurs walked the earth.

Red Rock-Secret Mountain Wilderness, established on August 24, 1984, preserves some of the most rugged and spectacular country from Oak Creek east toward Sycamore Canyon Wilderness.



*Photo courtesy of Wm. Howard*

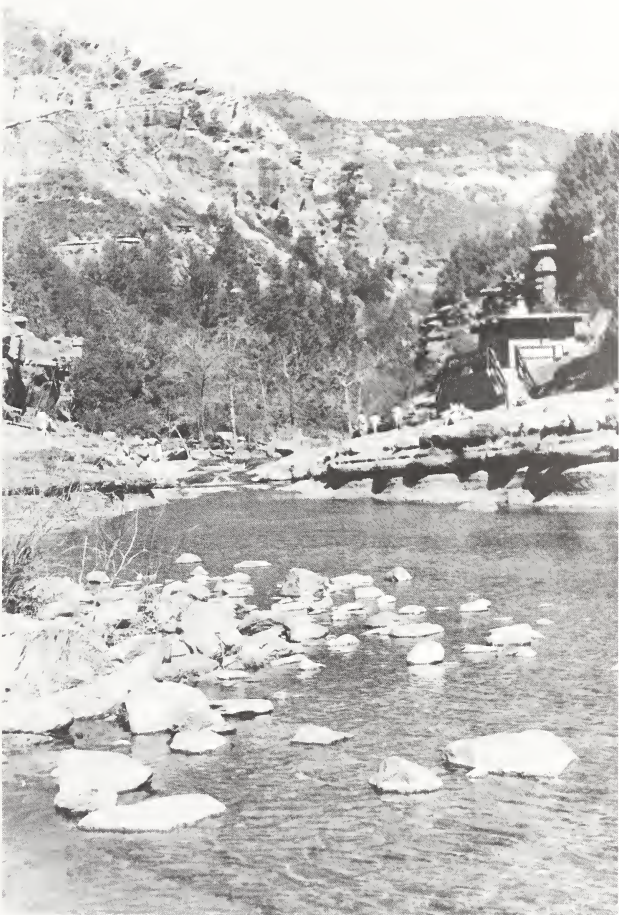


Each year more than 4,000,000 visitors — most toting cameras to record the matchless scenes — visit this favored section of the Sedona Ranger District.

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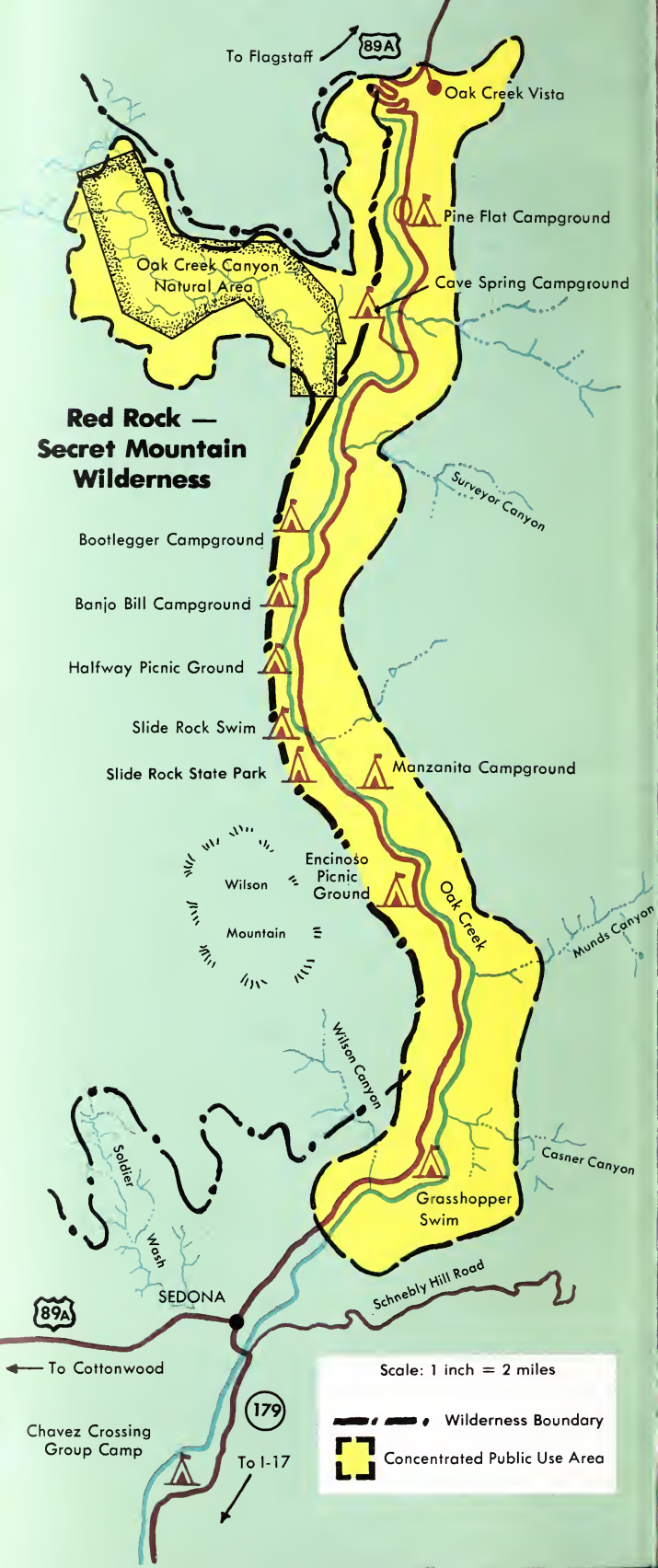
Oak Creek Canyon, from the vista point on the rim to the outskirts of Sedona, is managed as an area of concentrated public use. Its popularity makes necessary special regulations to protect and enhance the natural beauty that draws thousands of visitors each year.

Within a concentrated use area camping is limited to designated campgrounds. Campfires are permitted only in established fireplaces within campgrounds and picnic areas. User fees and stay limits are posted on information boards at each campground entrance. **Vehicles must be kept on surfaced roads.**



*Photo courtesy of Wm. Howard*

## Red Rock — Secret Mountain Wilderness



# Things to Do in Oak Creek Canyon

Oak Creek Canyon, a wonder of color and natural beauty, is managed by the Coconino National Forest and dedicated to the enjoyment of the American people. Visitors can camp, picnic, swim, fish, hike or simply enjoy nature in an unusually attractive setting.

**Camping** — There are five campgrounds in the canyon ranging in elevation from 4,800 to 5,600 feet.

**Picnicking** — There are two day-use picnic areas with tables in the lower half of the canyon. However, picnicking is allowed anywhere in the canyon with a few exceptions that are posted.

**Swimming** — Slide Rock Swim and Grasshopper Swim are two favorite swimming spots. State and Federal laws prohibit pets and glass in these areas. Swimming and wading are permitted anywhere along the creek on National Forest land.

**Fishing** — The Arizona Game and Fish Department regularly stocks the stream with trout during the summer months. Follow state regulations on licenses.

**Hiking** — Most of the trails in the canyon were built decades ago by settlers for moving cattle and supplies. Some are steep and rugged. Detailed hiking maps are available at the Sedona Ranger Station.

**Nature Study** — The highly varied vegetation and geology of the canyon are year-round attractions for all who enjoy the beauty and wonders of nature.



*Photo courtesy of Wm. Howard*



# Help Keep Your Recreation Areas Clean and Attractive

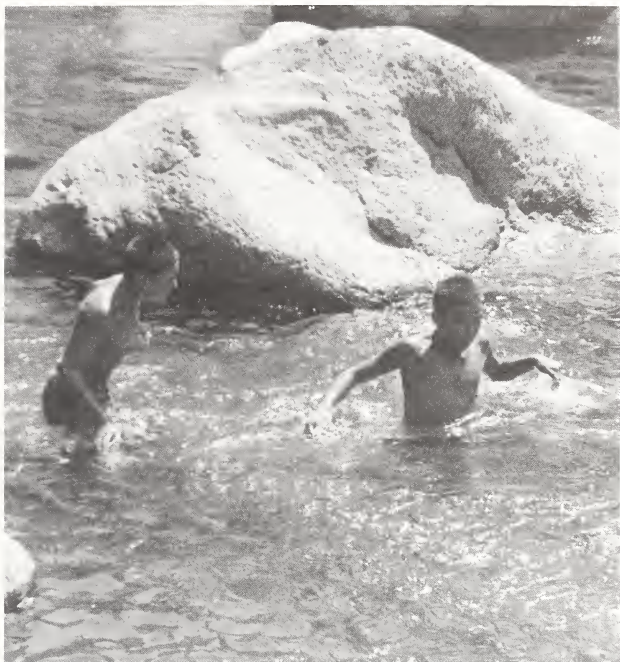
Because so many people use Oak Creek Canyon recreation facilities, cleanliness and consideration for others is vitally important. Please follow these suggestions to make your stay more enjoyable and as a favor to the visitors who will follow you.

1. Read the information on the bulletin boards. Rules and regulations are posted to protect you and the area.
2. Build fires only in the fireplaces provided.
3. Keep vehicles on roads and designated parking areas.
4. Reduce your speed. The roads in the canyon are narrow and heavily used by pedestrians. Campground speed limit is 10 MPH.
5. When parking along the highway, make sure your vehicle is completely off the road. Do not block driveways or side roads.
6. Do not drain sewage or waste water liquids from campers or trailers onto the ground. Use a bucket and dump it in the toilet.

7. Keep pets on a leash or confined to a vehicle.
8. Please do not damage or cut down trees and other vegetation. Leave it for others to enjoy.
9. Do not move garbage containers. They are located to expedite the work of the cleanup crews.
10. When visiting portions of the canyon where garbage containers are not provided, carry your trash out. Leave the area clean for those who follow you.
11. The use of firearms within Oak Creek Concentrated Use Area is prohibited.
12. Respect the rights and property of private land owners within the canyon.
13. Always leave a clean camp and a dead fire.
14. Treat the National Forest as if it were yours — *because it is.*

Recreation Sites									
Site Name	No. of Sites	User Fee	Facilities				Trailers OK	Stay Limit	Remarks
			Water	Toilets	Tables	Fireplaces			
Oak Creek Vista				X				Day Use	
Pine Flat Campground	58	X	X	X	X	X	X	7 Days	
Cave Spring Campground	78	X	X	X	X	X	X	7 Days	11 Sites on Reservation System  For Current Opening Dates Contact the Sedona Ranger Station, Box 300, Sedona, AZ 86336, Phone (602) 282-4119.
Bootlegger Campground	10	X		X	X	X		7 Days	
Banjo Bill Campground	8	X	X	X	X	X		7 Days	
Halfway Picnic Ground	8			X	X	X		Day Use	
Slide Rock Swim Area				X Limited Parking				Day Use	
Manzanita Campground	19	X	X	X	X	X		7 Days	
Encinosa Picnic Ground	10		X	X	X	X		Day Use	
Grasshopper Swim Area				X Limited Parking				Day Use	
Chavez Crossing Group Area	3		X	X	X	X	X	7 Days	All Sites — Reservations Only
		Will Accommodate From 10 to 150 People							





*Photos courtesy of Wm. Howard*

